

## News Release

**Subject: 2014 Primary Election Returns** 

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## **Few Surprises in Early Primary Election Returns**

The first returns for the 2014 Primary Election show that the candidates in contested races in Yakima County that were expected to advance to the General Election in November are doing just that. Only the top two vote getters in each race move on to the General Election, which will take place on Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.

In the crowed race for the 4<sup>th</sup> District U.S. Representative seat currently held by Doc Hastings, Clint Didier leads all vote getters with 37.32%. He is followed by former state representative and director of the Washington State Department of Agriculture Dan Newhouse who has 21.59% of the vote. None of the other 10 candidates vying to replace Hastings has more than 11% of the vote so far.

In the 13<sup>th</sup> District, Judy Waarnick and Mohammad Said will both advance to the General Election in their race for the State Senate. Waarnick has 88.76% of the vote while Said has captured 11.24%. Tom Dent is leading Dannette Bolyard 60.13% to 39.87% in their race for State Representative, Position 1. Matt Manweller is running unopposed in his bid for a second term as 13<sup>th</sup> District State Representative, Position 2.

Norm Johnson ran unopposed to retain his seat as 14<sup>th</sup> District State Representative, Position 1. Gina McCabe has captured 42.87% of the vote in the race for 14<sup>th</sup> District State Representative, Position 2. Paul George appears to be joining McCabe in the General Election having gotten 39.27% of the vote. Neither of the other two candidates has gotten more than 13% of the vote.

Bruce Chandler does not have an opponent in his effort to return to his 15<sup>th</sup> District State Representative, Position 1 seat. As of 8:45 pm, no results had been posted in the race involving incumbent David Taylor and challenger Teodora Martinez-Chavez for the 15<sup>th</sup> District State Representative, Position 2 seat. No results were available either for incumbent Jim Honeyford and challenger Gabriel Munoz in their race for the 15<sup>th</sup> District State Senate seat.

The race for Yakima County Auditor appears to be coming down to former State Representative Charles Ross and current Yakima Mayor Micah Cawley. Ross has 40.42% of the vote while Cawley has 34.73%. In a tight five-way race for Yakima County Clerk, Sarah Matheny is leading all contenders with 24.62% of the vote and is followed by Janelle Riddle with 24.49% and Kathleen Carter with 24.26%. Neither of the other two contenders has garnered more than 16% of the vote. Joe Brusic leads opponent Troy Clements 57.12% to 41.67% for the open Yakima County Prosecutor seat. In the race for Yakima County Sheriff, Brian Winter leads with 49.45% of the vote and is followed by Jim Keightley with 22.15%. No other candidate for Sheriff has more than 9% of the vote. Yakima County Coroner Jack Hawkins, Yakima County Treasurer Ilene Thomson, and Yakima County Commissioner Rand Elliott ran unopposed.

The Yakima County Auditors office conducts only one count of ballots on election night and, consequently, issues just one set of returns. The election night count usually represents about 20% of the ballots that have been returned to the Auditors office prior to election day. Yakima County uses an all-mail-in voting system, so ballots that are postmarked before midnight on August 5<sup>th</sup> will still be considered valid for the Primary Election.

Additional ballot counts will be conducted over the next few days. Ballot counts will continue periodically until all of the ballots that were received before the midnight August 5<sup>th</sup> deadline have been tabulated. The 2014 Primary Election will be certified on August 19<sup>th</sup>.